

Access

Michigan
History
June

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Web sitings: Michigan Local History

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

Michigan American Local History Network
<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mi/state/>

Michigan Local History in the Clarke Library
<http://www.lib.cmich.edu/clarke/lhbiintro.htm>

Local History Resources, Abrams Genealogy Highlights, Jan-Feb. 2000, v.2 no.1
http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-18835_18895_20699-50175--,00.html

MEL Section on Michigan History
<http://mel.lib.mi.us/michigan/MI-history.html>

Library of Congress Guide to Local History and Genealogy Collections
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/lhgcoll.html>

Michigan Historic Sites
<http://michsite.state.mi.us/voyager.cfm>

Lansing Architectural History
<http://www.angelfire.com/mi/shockweb/LAHA.html>

American Local History Network
<http://www.alhn.org/>

American Association for State and Local History
<http://www.aaslh.org/>

Library Services and Technology Act Grants Announced for Fiscal Year 2003

by Jolee Hamlin, LSTA Specialist, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan is pleased to announce the fiscal year 2003 grant proposals chosen to receive funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). Funding is contingent upon availability of federal funds and approval by the Governor's Administrative Board.

For the FY2003 competitive grant program, 86 grant applications were received. Twenty-eight applications were received for the Collaboration & Partnership funding area; 46 Digitization Mini-Grant applications were received; and 12 applications were received in the ATLAS Preparedness funding area. In total, applicants requested \$2,218,777.59.

The proposals chosen to receive funding are as follows:

Applicant Library

Collaboration & Partnership:

Brandon Township Public Library	\$34,192
Escanaba Public Library	\$15,660
Fred C Fischer Library (branch of the Wayne County Library)	\$12,000
Gladwin County Library	\$24,000
Munising School District Public Library	\$4,381
Niles District Library	\$16,528
Public Libraries of Saginaw	\$25,472
Pugsley Correctional Facility Library	\$58,152
Shiawassee District Library	\$50,000

MeLCat Preparedness:

Gerrish-Higgins School District Public Library	\$50,000
Jackson District Library	\$50,000
Northland Library Cooperative	\$215,000
Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative	\$225,000
Superiorland Library Cooperative	\$81,875
Mid-Michigan Library League	\$15,000
Traverse Area District Library	\$15,000
White Pine Library Cooperative	\$15,000

Statewide Projects (non-competitive):

Michigan Library Consortium	\$51,000
University of Michigan	\$50,000

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Legislative Day, Washington, D.C.



Christie Brandau, Representative Pete Hoekstra, and Sally Reed (president, Friends of Libraries USA). In this picture, Rep. Hoekstra is being presented with an award for his support of libraries through his sponsorship of Library Services and Technology Act.



Christie Pearson Brandau with Representative Pete Hoekstra, Shirley Bruursema (president-elect, American Library Trustee and Advocates), and Stephen Kershner (MLA executive director) at the reception honoring Rep. Hoekstra in Washington, D.C., May 13.



Shirley Bruursema, Christie Pearson Brandau, Midge Lusardi, Christine Lind Hage, Eileen Palmer, Stephen Kershner, Barbara Billerbeck, Cindy Lou Pouquette and Phyllis Jose at the ALA Legislative Day in Washington, D.C., on May 13.

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In addition, 41 digitization mini-grants received funding. Each mini-grant is funded at \$1,500 and is for participation in the statewide digitization effort, the *Making of Modern Michigan* (<http://mmm.lib.msu.edu>). A complete list of the funded mini-grants may be viewed at: http://michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17451_18668_18688---,00.html. The total rewarded through competitive subgrants for FY2003 is \$968,760.

New History, Arts and Libraries Database Promotes After-School and Preschool Programs

by Kristine Tardiff, Youth Services Specialist, Library of Michigan

One of Governor Jennifer Granholm's highest priorities is children, especially the education of children. Many organizations and libraries across the state offer quality educational opportunities for children, particularly after-school and preschool programs, but what was missing in the state was a link that connects those seeking out-of-school programs to those offering them.

To help solve this problem, the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) developed MICASE (Michigan Creative After School Experiences), a database of after-school, preschool, weekend and summer programs that enhance traditional education in Michigan. Governor Granholm unveiled the new online resources, located at <http://www.micase.org>, on May 1.

MICASE is Web accessible so organizations and libraries can enter program information directly into the database. Its goal is to connect those who offer programs and those seeking to attend programs. The database will also allow partnerships to develop between organizations and libraries with common goals and resources.

"Michigan's libraries provide very high quality programs for children. MICASE is an opportunity for people across the state to know about those great programs," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau.

If you have regular after-school, preschool, weekend or summer programs available to education partners (schools, Head Start, youth organizations, summer camps, etc.) or individuals (such as parents/care givers), please submit your information under "add programs."

Michigan not-for-profit cultural institutions such as community arts agencies, museums, zoos, science centers, orchestras, libraries, nature centers and theaters are also eligible to enter information about programs into MICASE.

Ineligible programs include those that are religious-instructional, sports and recreation, or for-profit commercial (e.g., a craft store or dance studio). Programs for grades pre-K through 12 may be entered in the following categories: History, Library Story Time and Programs, Literacy, Mathematics, Music, Science, Computers and Technology, Visual Arts and Theater.

MICASE fills a vital role in the state by allowing organizations and libraries to advertise their programs not only to each other but all citizens of the state as well. Children need quality out-of-school opportunities and MICASE, with information from throughout Michigan, will allow organizations and libraries to reach more children and families than they could on their own.

Upcoming Changes in Access

By Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

Given the recent budget challenges faced by Michigan, the Library of Michigan is doing its best to be prudent with state funds and is cutting costs wherever possible. We recognize the importance of *Access* in sharing information with libraries statewide and will continue to use this newsletter as a communication tool. However, in an effort to reduce the cost of printing *Access*, we will be making some changes in its production and distribution.

Since glossy paper is actually less expensive than uncoated paper, we will still print *Access* on glossy but will switch from four-color to two-color printing of the newsletter.

Beginning October 1, we offer subscribers the choice of receiving *Access* in paper or electronically. This summer subscribers will be given the opportunity to choose to continue receiving the newsletter and in what format.

2003 Rural Libraries Conference Award Winners

Congratulations to the following 2003 Rural Libraries Conference award winners:

Nyla Henseley, Saugatuck-Douglas District Library
Children's Services Award

Wava Dietrich, Boyne District Library
Public Services Award

Suzanne Dees, Superiorland Library Cooperative
Technical Services Award

Judi McNally, Fremont Area District Library
Administration Award

Arleen Frost, Fremont Area District Library
Trustees & Friends Award

Judy Ranville, Mackinaw Area Public Library
Collection Development Award

Christine Johnson, Northland Library Cooperative
Technology Award

Sue Warner, Wolverine Community Library
Collaboration & Partnership Award

Elizabeth Stella, Stair Public Library
Librarian of the Conference

The Conference Committee received many wonderful nominations from library boards and staff members from around the state. The awards were presented at the Rural Libraries Conference, which was held at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island May 5-7.



Elizabeth Stella (left) and State Librarian Christie Brandau

New Health Titles Added to MeL ebook Collection

by Harvey Brenneise, Michigan Public Health Institute

The Michigan Health Sciences Library Association (MHSLA) and Michigan Community Health Electronic Library (MCHEL) are pleased to announce to the Michigan library community the addition of 754 NetLibrary health sciences e-books to the MeL ebook collection. Sandy Swanson of St. Mary's Health Sciences Library in Grand Rapids led a team of librarians from MHSLA in selecting these titles, which have a total purchase price of approximately \$50,000.

The purchase was made possible by a grant from the National Library of Medicine (NLM) entitled "Just in Time Information Delivery in Michigan," which also includes funding for 11 Michigan health libraries to install Ariel workstations for interlibrary loan with Clio interlibrary loan management software. The grant proposal was written by Harvey Brenneise, library director of MCHEL.

Titles of interest to health consumers, clinicians and researchers are part of this collection. The collection includes the "Official Patients' Guide" and "Official Parents' Guide" series and titles in dentistry, ophthalmology, nursing, epidemiology, evidence-based practice, clinical medicine, medical research, health sciences education, hospital management, psychology and other subjects. Publishers represented include many noted medical publishers: Health Administration Press, B.C. Decker, Jones & Bartlett, Kluwer, Blackwell Science, BMJ, Wiley, Routledge, McGraw Hill Professional, Icon Group and more. A full list of the 754 new titles is at www.mhsla.org/netlibrary.pdf.

Special thanks go to members of the selection team: Swanson, Diane Piskorowski (Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills), Nancy Johns (Lakeland Hospital, St. Joseph), Helen Look (Univ. of Michigan), Ruti Volk (Univ. of Michigan), Dick Perrin (Ferris State), Pat Wolfgram (MidMichigan Medical Center, Midland) and Marie-Lise Shams (University of Detroit Mercy).

SARS Resources at Your Fingertips

by Brad Edick of the Gale Group and Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Administrator, Library of Michigan

Are library patrons looking for current information on SARS, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome? Well, if they have Gale's Health and Wellness Resource Center, they are in luck.

Not only is this term now available within the database's vocabulary as a term, the SARS abbreviation is keyword searchable as well. The Health and Wellness Resource Center has many full-text articles from key sources like the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), *Time*, *U.S. News and World Report* and *The Lancet*, as well as index entries from the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*. Full-text newspapers in the Health News section of the database are also carrying the story.

Customers can InfoMark these searches and post them on the library Web pages for those patrons asking for current news and information on this latest health concern.

In addition to the resources from GALE, MeL Health Information selector Metta Lansdale has created a new section on SARS at <http://mel.org/health/health-SARS.html>. Included here are links that provide updates about the spread of this disease, such as the Michigan Department of Community Health, the CDC and WHO (World Health Organization). You will also find information about the definition of SARS as well as infection control guidance.

Planning Underway for MLA Conference

by Leah Black, MLA Conference Publicity Chair

Planning is now underway for the Michigan Library Association's 2003 annual conference, to be held October 29-31, 2003, at the Lansing Center/Radisson Hotel in downtown Lansing.

MLA President-elect Marcia Warner (Public Libraries of Saginaw) and conference chair Denise Forro (Michigan State University Libraries) have assembled a committee of hard-working volunteers to make this a conference loaded with inspiring speakers, informative sessions and entertaining special events.

Keynote speakers will include Mr. Khafre Abif,

librarian at the Langston Hughes Library of the Children's Defense Fund, and Carla Hayden, president-elect of the American Library Association.

A wide variety of programs for all library types are planned. Topics include digitization projects, advocacy programs, virtual reference, collecting historic materials, the future of the catalog, using children's literature to develop children's character, censorship, project management, fundraising, customizing online services, working with unions and union contracts, marketing library programs, Website design, "techno-stress" and much, much more.

Conference attendees will once again be able to do their holiday shopping at MLA's annual auction, keep in touch with colleagues back home through services offered in the Internet Room and visit with vendors from a variety of library-related companies in the exhibit hall. Themed lunches, an evening banquet and the all-conference reception will provide opportunities to network with colleagues statewide.

Our conference Web site will be up soon, and details will be posted at www.mla.lib.mi.us.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. Contact the Michigan Library Association at (517) 394-2774 or mlainfo@mlcnet.org for more information.

Oral History Project Targets Public Libraries of Saginaw Staff

by Becky Cawley, Statewide Database Administrator, Library of Michigan

In the summer of 2002, the Public Libraries of Saginaw contracted with graphic artist, Web designer and oral historian Julie Curtis of Howl Multimedia for a special project related to the Library's history. The goal was to add to existing physical materials and written histories the memories of longterm employees. Ten current and retired employees were interviewed. The sessions were captured on a digital recorder and then transferred to CD's. Staff members also contributed photographs and other memorabilia. These items were captured in several scrapbooks.

Sherrill Smith, who has spent nearly 30 years as a Saginaw staff member, said the project provided "a living portrait of the library not captured in minutes and newsletters through memories and stories that had been passed down through the years."

Staff interviews produced a picture of what it

was like to work at the Saginaw library from the early 1900's to the present. Stories included patrons – famous and colorful and strange – including the "cat lady." Memories noted formal staff tea parties and requirements to wear hats, gloves, long dresses and hose outside the library – staff members were expected to be good representatives of the library when in public. Animal experiences included a chicken in the drop box, bats in the attic and a pet boa constrictor in the children's room.

The staff talked with pride about the collection of materials purchased by the first librarian, Harriet Ames, who was hired before the library opened and sent to Europe to purchase books. In the early 20th century, these resources were frequently used by University of Michigan students because of the extensive materials on medieval history and because they found it so useful to have materials that expressed the European point of view.

In summarizing the impact of the project, Library Director Marcia Warner said that it generated a lot of enthusiasm among current and former staff and got everyone thinking about the often-untapped historical resources that exist in people's memories. The library is planning to build on these experiences with a forthcoming oral community history project to be done in collaboration with the Castle Museum.

Fading Memories Conservation Education Project, Grand Traverse Heritage Alliance

by Carol Fink, Assistant Rare Book Librarian, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan, in cooperation with Michigan Alliance for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage and through the Grand Traverse Heritage Alliance and Michigan Humanities Council, is offering a multimedia kit to libraries around the state via interlibrary loan.

This extraordinary resource kit was designed by the Grand Traverse Heritage Alliance to help historical societies, museums, schools, libraries and cultural and community groups educate their staffs, volunteers, members and the general public in the care and preservation of archives and artifacts of personal, family and local histories.

The comprehensive guide includes five discussion papers that help answer the question, "How do we get started?" They are: How to Use This Resource for Public Relations Purposes, How to Establish a Fading Memories Project, Ways to

Display the Exhibition Posters, How to Choose the Proper Archival Materials for a Conservation Project and How to Establish a Family Archive.

The 30-minute video "How to Do a Fading Memories Public Outreach Project" was written and presented by Peg Poeschl Siciliano of Traverse City and recorded at Northwestern Michigan College.

Fifteen full-size posters with heading labels assist the presenter in visually expressing the significance and timeliness of preservation awareness.

Five softbound books – *Caring for Your Family Treasures* by Jane S. Long and Richard W. Long (New York: Abrams, 2000), *Caring for Your Collections* (New York: Abrams, 1992), *Collections Care: A Selected Bibliography* (Washington, D.C.: National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, 1991), *Museums as a Business: The Business of Museums* by John Carter (Willowdale, Ont.: Ontario Historical Society, 1990) and *Conserving Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century* by the Michigan Alliance for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage (Ann Arbor, Mich.: Historical Society of Michigan, 1994) – provide a wealth of information about preserving, conserving and protecting a wide range of materials.

Flyers from some of the leading commercial resources for preservation/conservation supplies, such as University Products, Light Impressions and Gaylord Archiving Company, may be freely reproduced and distributed.

All in all, this is a fantastic resource for those wishing to bring preservation awareness to the attention of library and museum staffs, collectors of historical documents and artifacts and the individual family member who wants to know how to protect and maintain heirloom treasures.

Any Michigan library desiring to borrow this kit may contact the Library of Michigan Interlibrary Loan Department at (517) 373-8926. OCLC requests to EEX or telefax to (800) 292-2431 will also be honored.

Bibliographic information: *Fading Memories* (Traverse City, Mich.: Grand Traverse Heritage Alliance, 1994) (OCLC) 50806402.

Significant Dates in Michigan Library History

by Linda Neely, Public Services Librarian

1817 Michigan's first public library, City Library of Detroit, was opened by Rev. John Monteith (probably the first Michigan "librarian") on a membership share basis. Detroit Public Library became a free public library in 1865.

1828 The Michigan Territorial Library, forerunner of the State Library, was established.

1831 The Territorial Council provided for a "social library" for each Michigan township. Ladies' Library Associations began establishing libraries in many communities.

1833 Kalamazoo College Library was established.*

1835 The first Michigan Constitution recognized libraries as an integral part of the state's educational system. Article 10, Section 4 of the first Constitution also designated that monies from penal fines go to support libraries.

1837 With statehood, the Territorial Library became the State Library.

1838 The first book was purchased for the University of Michigan Library.

1846 Bellevue Township Library was established.*

1847 Olivet College Library was established.*

1853 State Normal School, Ypsilanti, Library was established.*

1856 Ann Arbor School District Library was established.*

1859 Adrian College Library was established.*

1859 Michigan P.A. 208, the first "District Library Act" allowed for division of township library collections.

1860 Saginaw West Public Union School District Library was established.

1872 The Ladies' Library Association of Kalamazoo opened the state's first building built exclusively to house a public library.

1876 By 1876, Michigan Ladies' Library Associations operated at least 26 libraries.

1877 P.A. 164, the Free Public Library Law, provided for establishment of city, village and township libraries.

1896 Michigan boasted 44 traveling library collections.

1899 P.A. 115, the Free Public Library Act, mandated that library services be provided free to inhabitants and allowed for private gifts and local tax levies to support library services. The act also mandated that public libraries file an annual report with the State Board of Library Commissioners.

1900 The Andrew Carnegie Foundation granted \$17,000 to Ironwood for construction of a free public library.

1917 P.A. 138 provided for the establishment of Michigan county libraries and authorized county boards to levy .5 mills in support of the county library.

1937 P.A. 315, Michigan's first State Aid to Libraries Act, appropriated \$500,000 to aid libraries

1964 Pub L. 88-269, the Library Services and Construction Act, provided the first federal funding for library construction.

1972 P.A. 371, the Library Network Act, provided that the state's largest research libraries (those with collections of 1,000,000 or over) should be interloan resource libraries of last resort for the state.

1976 P.A. 267, the Open Meetings Act; P. A. 453, The Elliot Larson Civil Rights Act; and P.A. 220, the Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act, all impacted upon libraries.

1977 P.A. 89 revised the State Aid to Libraries Act, providing portions of state aid for cooperatives and regional/subregional libraries for the blind and physically handicapped.

1982 P.A. 540 transferred the State Library from the Department of Education to the Legislative Council.

1983 P.A. 455, the Michigan Library Privacy Act, meant new restrictions on release and storage of patron records.

1996 Pub. L. 104-208, the Library Services and Technology Act, replaced LSCA with a broad range of services for which libraries could qualify for federal funds.

2000 P.A. 212 amended a section 6 of the Michigan Library Privacy Act to impose restrictions on Internet access by minors in public libraries.

2000 Title XVII of Pub. L. 106-554, "The Children's Internet Protection Act," requires schools receiving federal funds to use technology measures that prevent access by minors to various defined "harmful" materials on the Internet.

2001 Pub L. 107-56, The U.S. Patriot Act, required libraries to give over patron records to law enforcement agencies.

2001 P.A. 62 transferred the Library of Michigan from the Legislative Council to the newly formed Department of History, Arts and Libraries.

** From Michigan Library Association statistics collected in 1899.*

Mary Spencer: The State Library's Progressive Visionary, 1893-1923

by Jim Schultz, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

The Civil War was a generation away and the progressive movement was taking hold in America. Progressive reformers preached that government was not only government by the people, but for the people. This progressive mantra was becoming a political force and part of the national consciousness. This was the mood and spirit of Michigan as Mary C. Spencer assumed the position of state librarian in 1893.

Born in Pontiac, Michigan, Mary Clare Wilson Spencer was the first state librarian born outside of New England. After serving as assistant state librarian for eight years and honing her skills in administration, leadership and legislative procedures, Mary Spencer was appointed Michigan's state librarian on March 3, 1893.

By July of 1893 Mary Spencer was ready to implement her own progressive vision, drawing on her years of experience working with staff and the state Legislature. To fully appreciate Mary Spencer's impact on the State Library and the people of Michigan, one must remember that since 1828 the use of the library's books was restricted to state officials. That all changed with the beginning of Spencer's tenure.

Mary Spencer's administration would be characterized by expanding services for all people. The State Library went from a Lansing-based facility for legislators and government employees to a statewide facility for local libraries, citizens and reader groups so typical of the progressive era. Two of her many accomplishments symbolize this combination of vision and pragmatism: the associate library and traveling library programs.

The associate library system was Mary Spencer's way to use existing libraries to make government work for the people. She felt that opening the State Library collection to all was just the first step, since these books could only be used by traveling to Lansing, which was still a long, costly journey by horse and buggy or railroad. To remedy this situation, existing libraries were invited to become affili-



ated with the State Library. By becoming an associate library, books would be sent to patrons at the expense of the user. By 1895, there were ten associate libraries using books from the state list; by 1898 there were 26; and by 1906 the number increased to 60. The list of associate libraries varied from the Detroit Public Library with over 174,000 volumes to the Grand Haven Public School Library with 687 volumes.

In 1895, the Legislature passed a bill that included funds for traveling libraries. Michigan became the second state after New York to offer this service. In May of 1895, the first traveling library was sent to North Star, Michigan. It consisted of 50 volumes, with the goal of exposing those who live a distance from large towns to the best literature. By 1897, Michigan had 50 traveling libraries. By 1898, the number increased to 125, and in 1901, the Legislature doubled the appropriation for the program. By 1902, there were 722 traveling libraries on the road with over 16,000 patrons utilizing over 74,000 books.

Yet as the 1920s approached, the progressive goal of developing the reading habit through the associate library and traveling library programs actually contributed to their decline. Mary Spencer attributed at least 20 cities building free public libraries to the readers these programs developed. The movement of county libraries and U.S. Parcel Post eventually took its toll. In 1919, the traveling library program was dropped from the budget. However, without a doubt, Mary Spencer's programs not only succeeded but also laid the groundwork for our modern library system.

The Mary Spencer era came to an end after she was appointed to her last four-year term in 1919. In May of 1923, she became very ill and died that August at the age of 81. During Mary Spencer's watch, the State Library had become a nationally recognized professional institution for all the people of Michigan. She built upon the foundations laid by Harriet Tenney and left as her legacy a State Library with the modern concept of library service. Her vision of a library whose priorities were focused on actively using its resources statewide, rather than just the Lansing facility, was realized in her lifetime. Without Mary Spencer's leadership in developing a total library system for everyone and her enthusiasm for maintaining a quality collection of books, Michigan would not have attained its leadership position among state libraries during the first part of the 20th century.

Michigan Pioneers, Centennial and Sesquicentennial Collections for Local History and Genealogical Research

by Kyle Kay Ripley, Reference Assistant, Library of Michigan

The Library of Michigan has a variety of collections referred to as "Michigan Pioneer." All are different, although some pioneer families may be mentioned in each of them. The collections titled Michigan Pioneer Records and the Michigan Centennial and Sesquicentennial collections are the results of projects promoted by the Library of Michigan. The indexes to the Centennial and Sesquicentennial collections include 18,000 applications from persons proving relationship to ancestors living in Michigan prior to 1838 and 1877, respectively.

The Michigan Pioneer Records project was created to give citizens the opportunity to provide genealogical information on their early Michigan ancestors. A pioneer was defined as "a person who took up residence in an area within the first twenty years of its settlement." From 1948 to 1994, forms were completed by the pioneer descendants and indicated sources of genealogical information on the pioneers. Genealogical information included the name of the pioneer, his/her spouse, children and parents, as well as the dates and locations of birth, marriage and death. This 38-volume set of nearly 3,800 forms is arranged numerically in order by pioneer record number, with a name index also available.

The Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections, records of the Pioneer Society of the State of Michigan, Committee of Historians, are another set of pioneer records. This 40-volume set begins in 1877 and ends in 1929. Material in these volumes range from extensive biographies of some early Michigan settlers and transcriptions of letters exchanged by various government offices to memorial reports by county of the deaths of citizens and historical accounts of county events. This is an excellent resource for researching the early settlement and development of local communities across the state.

The Centennial Family Certificate was a project of the Michigan Genealogical Council during the United States' bicentennial in 1976. A direct descendant of a Michigan resident of 100 years or more was eligible to receive recognition. The applicant completed an application and mailed it with

accompanying documentation of proof to the Library of Michigan. The microfiche index has an alphabetical list by surname and another list by county, at the Library of Michigan under the title Michigan Centennial File Index. Copies of the centennial family certificate questionnaire forms are also available on microfilm and microfiche at the Library of Michigan. The original forms, along with other supporting papers, are housed at the State Archives of Michigan.

A similar project for descendants of Michigan residents of 150 years was completed during Michigan's 150th anniversary year in 1987. The Michigan Sesquicentennial Pioneer Index is available on microfiche at the Library of Michigan, with the original documents housed at the State Archives of Michigan.

All of the collections described above are valuable tools for both finding genealogical information on early Michigan settlers and researching Michigan local history.

Andrew Carnegie's Libraries

by Nancy Whitmer, Law Librarian, Library of Michigan

What a terrific legacy Andrew Carnegie gave to his adopted country when he provided funding for 1689 public libraries in the United States and its possessions and for hundreds more in the rest of the English-speaking world. A Scottish immigrant who worked his way up the economic ladder to end up with a fortune of several hundred million dollars, Carnegie felt a duty to give back to the society that had afforded him such great opportunities. He did exactly that. He actually gave away about 90 percent of his fortune before he died, much of it to build libraries, but also to fund institutions involved in higher education, religion and the arts.

Carnegie's particular focus on public libraries came from personal experience. As the child of a poor family, he had the good fortune to discover a small lending library that nurtured him intellectually and provided the education that his family could not. His experience with that humble library planted the seed that grew into a lifetime of philanthropy toward public libraries. He saw that a library offered the educational opportunities necessary to succeed, for

those industrious enough to use them, and that an immigrant such as he could learn what it is to be an American, so as more easily to fit in and prosper in his new land. Carnegie wanted to make these advantages available to all.

Between the mid-1880s and 1920s, Carnegie gave individual grants for the construction of public libraries throughout the country, leaving the architectural details to the locals. The result was myriad building styles that included Italian Renaissance, Beaux-Arts, Classical Revival, Tudor Revival, California Mission and Prairie, among others. Most of the libraries were built in small cities and towns where they became the most impressive buildings around, and in some cases, centers of culture and learning, just as their benefactor had envisioned. The total value of Carnegie's grants was over \$41 million in the United States and over \$68 million worldwide, with a few individual grants over \$100,000 but most under \$20,000. And all that money was dispersed without the need to advertise. Word of mouth spread the news that funds were available.

Michigan figured prominently in the Carnegie library boom one hundred years ago. Fifty-three communities took advantage of the opportunity to obtain grants, ranging from a low of \$5000 in Newaygo to a high of \$750,000 in Detroit.

With all its benefits, a project of this magnitude, lasting this long and involving communities throughout the nation, was not without its problems. Not surprisingly, local politics influenced the building projects, as well as the use of the buildings, in many communities. Nevertheless, the generosity of Andrew Carnegie was a tremendous boon to the development of the public library in the United States.

Information for this article came from the following sources. *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy*, by Theodore Jones, *Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture 1890-1920*, by Abigail A. Van Slyck, and two Web sites: *Carnegie Library Buildings in Michigan*, compiled by Terwilliger Associates (<http://cterwilliger.com/resource/carnegie>) and Andrew Carnegie and his Charity Towards Libraries, by Michael Lorenzen (<http://www.lib.msu.edu/lorenze1/te812.htm>).

A Dynamic Inventory of Our State's Built Heritage: Michigan's Historic Sites

compiled by Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

Michigan's Historical Marker Program was established in 1955. Since then, more than 2,500 sites have been placed in the state register and approximately 1,500 markers have been erected, making it one of the largest privately funded historical marker programs in the nation.

Today, the Michigan Historical Marker program is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), an agency of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries and a vital part of the Michigan Historical Center's effort to assist the citizens of Michigan in the identification, designation and protection of historic properties. The Michigan Historical Commission holds the authority for approving the placement and wording of historical markers.

In 1999, the SHPO developed Michigan's Historic Sites Online, a project that put over 3,000 of Michigan's National Register, State Register and Historical Marker properties, current to December 1998, on the Web in a searchable database. The database includes information about and photos of places in Michigan listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historic Sites, as well as places with Michigan Historical Markers.

To search Michigan Historic Sites Online, visit www.michigan.gov/hal. Click on Services and Collections, then Historic Preservation and look under SHPO On-line Collections.

Another part of the SHPO's registration and interpretation of Michigan's historic resources is the Centennial Farm Program, begun by the Michigan Historical Commission in 1948 to recognize farms that have remained in the same family for one hundred years or more, and highlight the family farm's contributions to Michigan's development.

Under the Centennial Farm Program, over 5,500 centennial farms have been certified. Once a farm is certified, the owners receive a centennial farm marker, donated by Michigan electrical utility companies to commemorate the dramatic changes electricity brought to farm operation and family life.

Michigan History Online at www.michigan.gov/hal

by Casey Kremers, Department of History, Arts and Libraries

A great Michigan history resource, especially for students and teachers, can be found in the same place as information about the Library of Michigan – the Department of History, Arts and Libraries (HAL) Web site at www.michigan.gov/hal.

Using the menus along the left side of the page, you can find a variety of tools to explore Michigan's rich history. Following is a sample of what is available under each category.

Our Agencies

Click on *Michigan Historical Center*, then Michigan Historical Museum System for information about the nine museum sites around the state and the flagship museum in Lansing, including online tours of the museum and details about special events. Also under Michigan Historical Center are links to the State Archives, Records Management Services, the State Historic Preservation Office, *Michigan History* magazine and the Office of the State Archaeologist. Click on *Mackinac State Historic Parks* for information about the Mackinac historic sites, museum collections, special events, education programs and more.

Find it Online

Under *Student Activities and Resources*, you can find a variety of fun and educational resources for kids. Click on the Kids' Stuff links at the left for many activities to help children explore different eras in Michigan history. *Michigan Facts and History* includes a brief history of Michigan and quick facts about famous Michiganders, state symbols and songs, Michigan governors and much more. *Virtual Tours* lets you explore the Michigan Historical Museum system, the Library of Michigan's genealogy collection, State Archives records and exhibits, historic vehicles and Michigan license plates. Find It Online also includes information about various *historic sites* around the state and how to find historic *photographs of Michigan*.

Services and Collections

In addition to *Genealogy*, *Government Documents*, *Law Library* and *Michigan Newspaper Project* links, all of which are helpful in researching different aspects of Michigan history, this category also contains information about *historic preservation* from the State Historic Preservation Office. It also provides details about HAL's *research services* and its *special collections*, including the Library of

For more information about these and other historic preservation programs, visit www.michigan.gov/hal or call the State Historic Preservation Office at (517) 373-1630.

Michigan's collections of books related to Michigan history, historic maps and rare books and the Michigan Historical Museum's collection of battle flags.

For the Professional

Teacher Resources includes information about tours, lesson plans and other tools from the Michigan Historical Center, Library of Michigan and Mackinac State Historic Parks that can help students learn about their state's history.

Grants

Click on *Historic Preservation Incentives Programs* to find out about Michigan's Historic Preservation Grant Program, Certified Local Government Program, Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program and tax incentives for historic buildings.

Publications and Products

Things to Buy includes information about purchasing educational and informative products and publications, including *Michigan History* and *Michigan History for Kids* magazines, Michigan history-related products from the Michigan Historical Museum store, genealogy publications from the Library of Michigan and publications currently available from Mackinac State Historic Parks. See *Research Guides and Reading Lists* for archival circulars, which identify the records that the State Archives holds on a given topic, and local history reading lists.

This is just a glimpse of the array of Michigan history information available on the HAL Web page. Explore for yourself and see all that the site has to offer!



2003 Access Team: Back row - Kyle Ripley, Tim Watters, Casey Kremers, Jo Budler, Linda Neely, Andrew Wilson, front row - Becky Cawley and Karrie Waarala. Not pictured, Marnie Elden and Jennifer Houseman.

Cranes for Peace at Livonia Civic Center Library

Last summer, in conjunction with its children's reading program, the Livonia Civic Center Library children's department invited patrons of all ages to fold a paper crane in a wish for peace. The goal was to collect 3,200 cranes – one for each victim of the September 11 attack. The library provided instructions and all the materials, and the various-colored cranes were hung from the ceiling as a visual reminder of hope and peace. The cranes still fly over the books and periodicals in the library's children's department.

Wayne State Library and Information Science Program Continues Accreditation

Wayne State University's Library and Information Science program has been given renewed accreditation from the Committee on Accreditation of the American Library Association (ALA). Over two years of work in preparing for accreditation and reviewing the program's curriculum, mission, goals and objectives resulted in recognition that Wayne State will continue to offer a quality LIS program. The WSU LIS program is one of two library and information science programs in the state and the only one providing distance education opportunities for Michigan residents through online courses and learning centers in Farmington Hills, Grand Rapids and Lansing. It is also the major provider of the school media specialist credentialing to prepare students for full state endorsement as school librarians.

L'Anse Area School/Public Weather Station

Thanks to a gift from the family of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lahti, the L'Anse Area School/Public Library in L'Anse, Michigan, has a weather station recognized by the National Weather Service. Mrs. Lahti was known as the "weather lady" of Herman, whose weather readings were frequently featured on local and, sometimes, national television. Weather data for L'Anse is now fed directly to the National Weather Service and Channel 6 TV in Marquette.



If you have a news item you would like to contribute, please contact Casey Kremers at 517-373-5578 or email: ckremers@michigan.gov.

**Library of Michigan
State Librarian**

Christie Pearson Brandau

**Deputy State Librarian,
Statewide Operations**

Jo Budler

**Deputy State Librarian,
Internal Operations**

Nancy Robertson

Graphic Design/Layout

Marnie M. Elden

Contributing Writers:

Leah Black, Christie Pearson Brandau, Harvey Brenneise, Becky Cawley, Brad Edick, Carol Fink, Jolee Hamlin, Casey Kremers, Linda Neely, Kyle Kay Ripley, Jim Schultz, Kristine Tardiff, Nancy Whitmer

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The Library of Michigan is part of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries. Dedicated to enriching the quality of life for Michigan residents by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage, and fostering cultural creativity, the department also includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Michigan Film Office and the Michigan Historical Center.

This publication is available in an alternative format: Braille or audio cassette. Please call 517-373-5614 for more information.

Department Director

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Casey Kremers, Communications Specialist

Dept. of History, Arts and Libraries

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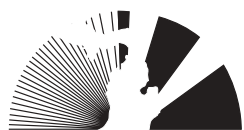
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